

EPA Environmental News

For more information call

Mary Sanderson, EPA Remedial Project Manager, 617/573- 5738
Diane Ready, Community Relations, 617/565-3425

for immediate release - October 2, 1989

EPA ANNOUNCES EXTENSION OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD ON CLEANUP PLAN FOR PCB "HOT SPOT" AREA IN NEW BEDFORD

BOSTON -- The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) today extended the public comment period on EPA's proposed plan to clean up the PCB contaminated "hot spot" at the New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site in New Bedford, MA.

The end of the public comment period on the "hot spot" cleanup proposal has been extended from October 2, 1989 to October 16, 1989 in response to a request for additional time to review and comment on EPA's Proposed Plan, Feasibility Study of alternatives for cleanup of the "hot spot" area, Public Health Risk Assessment and other documents relating to EPA activities at the site. These documents are available at the New Bedford Free Library, 613 Pleasant Street, New Bedford; the Millicent Library, 15 Center Street, Fairhaven; and at the EPA Records Center, 90 Canal Street, Boston.

The "hot spot" is a 5-acre area within the Acushnet River estuary that contains highly contaminated sediments. EPA is proposing a 14.4 million dollar plan to remove and treat sediments on-site during a one-year period. EPA's plan would involve dredging the sediments for incineration in an on-site, mobile treatment facility to destroy the contaminants, and providing temporary storage of the treated sediments in an existing shoreline disposal facility. The stored sediments would be addressed in the next phase of the cleanup. The proposal was introduced to the community at a public informational meeting held on August 3, 1989 and initial comments were accepted at a public hearing held on August 15.